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SECURITY INFORMATION

NIS COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 117

30 October 1951

1. The following were present:

Dr. Appleton	State
Lt. Col. Kiel	Army
Lt. Col. Rogers	Navy
Lt. Col. Jones	Navy
Major Hessimoh	Air Force
	CIA
	CIA (Chairman)

[REDACTED]

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2. The Chairman informed the Committee that informal inquiry had revealed that no revision of the JCS Priorities List is contemplated at this time. It is expected that the JCS will again review the priorities matter in January 1952; however, present indications are that no changes are in prospect.

After discussion, the Committee decided that planning for the F.Y. 1953 NIS Production Schedule would proceed on the basis of the present JCS Priorities List.

3. The Army member reported that the statement of his agency regarding the release of certain NIS elements to the international staff of SHAPE would be sent directly to D/B during the coming week. He also reported that his agency had received a request from the international staff of SHAPE for terrain studies on certain European areas, and that Army was acting directly in the matter since no specific mention was made of the NIS.

4. The Chairman received the views of the members relative to the Air Force proposal for revision of the Outline and Outline Guide for Section 83 (Air Force), copies of which were distributed for study at the last meeting. The Army member indicated approval of the proposal without change. The Navy member stated that his agency's comments were not ready but from discussions with those studying the proposal he was of the opinion that few, if any, substantive changes would be suggested. Navy comments will be forwarded to the Air Force, with a copy to D/B. The State member approved the proposal with a minor change which was acceptable to the Air Force member. The Chairman then presented, in detail, a number of comments and suggestions reflecting the D/B views on the proposal. The Air Force member stated that he would ascertain the position of his agency respecting D/B's comments and suggestions and would then bring the matter up for further discussion at a

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later meeting. The Chairman suggested a meeting of D/B and Air Force representatives if further clarification is necessary on any points raised by D/B.

5. In reference to obtaining intelligence materials from ECA files for use in NIS (see paragraph 9 NIS Committee Meeting No. 116), the Chairman reported that a project of this nature had already been undertaken by CIA with the approval of the IAC and the ECA. (See IAC-D-19, dated 27 April 1951, and minutes of IAC meeting of 25 May 1951). Following approval of the project in May 1951, the CIA allocated [REDACTED] for F.Y. 1952, for the purpose of microfilming all material of intelligence value in ECA and other Foreign Mission files in the European area. A preliminary survey was made by a CIA representative between 8 May - 19 June 1951, to determine what files contained data which should be screened and selectively microfilmed. A Microfilm Team was then dispatched which has been actively engaged in microfilming the contents of these files. Present plans call for another microfilm team to be engaged in this work for the next year. Films are now being received in CIA and accession lists will be distributed to the Intelligence Agencies so that they may select and request copies of microfilms of interest to them.

The Chairman said, however, that it did not appear that photographs were being acquired under this project. He said that he would, therefore, prepare a memorandum to OCD requesting that steps be taken to satisfy this requirement also.

6. In respect to photographic material for the NIS the Chairman urged the State member to emphasize to the US missions that they can assist greatly in improving the quality of NIS photographs by searching out and obtaining originals of photographs of intelligence interest they may appear in publications in their area, or that come to their attention in any other way. The State member was asked to work closely with G/R (Graphics Register) CIA, with the view of furnishing guidance to US missions as to the photographic requirements for the NIS.

The Chairman informed the Committee that D/B and G/R were now examining all published NIS to determine their photo deficiencies for the purpose of giving guidance to G/R in acquiring photographs for use in the NIS Maintenance Program.

7. Discussion was continued on ways and means of stabilizing NIS production. (Refer to NIS Committee Meetings No. 113, No. 114, No. 115, and No. 116). The Navy member reported that the memorandum to the Committee Chairman outlining difficulties being faced in meeting production commitments, first draft of which was submitted at the last meeting, was still in process of revision. The Navy member also reported that effort was being made to justify the restoration of the NIS positions which were lost as a result of the SecDef 5% personnel cut directive. A hearing on this matter with Navy Budget Officers is scheduled for Thursday, 1 November 1951.

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The Army member reported that it had been administratively determined by the Department of the Army that there would be no restoration of NIS positions lost by the SecDef directive.

In connection with Army's interest in exploring the possibility of obtaining CIA fiscal support for its G-2 NIS activities (see paragraph 5, NIS Committee Meeting No. 116), the Chairman said that discussions with the CIA Comptroller resulted in the conclusion that a request for such partial support of an agency's NIS activities would be impracticable. After full discussion the Army member said that his agency was still interested in exploring the feasibility of centralized fiscal support for the entire NIS program in the Department of the Army. The Chairman undertook to investigate the matter further on that basis.

8. The Army member reported that with reference to the use of certain top secret maps in Chapter IX of NIS Area No. 27, (Refer to paragraph 8, NIS Committee Meeting No. 116), the Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, had directed that the maps in question be excluded from the NIS.

9. The Chairman informed the Committee of the amplification, in the interest of clarity, of two items in the Editorial Instructions. One relates to the manuscript completion date, and the other to the agency approval date. These revisions will appear in the new Outline Guide, which is now in the page proof stage of publication.

10. The Chairman noted that NIS production for October was falling almost 100% short of scheduled commitments for the month. Of a total of 16 sections submitted, 15 of them were overdue from previous months, and only 1 section of the 28 sections scheduled for October has been produced. Discussion revealed that State and Army were submitting additional contributions which would bring the total for the month close to the scheduled number of sections due, but they would be overdue sections, rather than sections scheduled for October.

The Army member reported that four Sections No. 81 were ready for submission except for the Uniform and Insignia Charts. These charts have been prepared in color for all previous contributions. However, the demand for cartographic services is now so heavy in Army that the preparation of charts in color for the four sections that are complete except for these charts will delay submission of these sections to D/B for approximately 6 months. It is planned, therefore, to drop the colored charts in order not to delay publication of the balance of the information. The Chairman suggested that consideration be given to preparation of the charts in black and white if such treatment could be given with any substantial savings of time. The Army member will look into the feasibility of such treatment.

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11. The State member distributed copies of instructions issued in his agency giving more definitive direction on the preparation of the NIS Subsection, "Comments on Principal Sources". In many cases in the past this Subsection has not been satisfactory, and these instructions give additional information on what is required to make this "Comment" Subsection better meet the purpose for which it is intended. The Chairman asked the other members to follow up in a similar manner in their own agencies.

12. The next meeting of the Committee will be held at the call of the Chairman.

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